

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 1. (Currently amended) A method for controlling access to files within a
2 plurality of virtual servers, wherein the plurality of virtual servers operate within
3 separate virtual environments on a single computing device, comprising:
4 accepting a file access request;
5 determining if the file access request originated from within a virtual
6 server of the plurality of virtual servers, wherein the virtual server operates within
7 a virtual environment that is insulated from other virtual environments associated
8 with other virtual servers;
9 if the file access request originated from within the virtual server,
10 determining if the file access request is for a new file; ~~and~~
11 if the file access request is for a new file,
12 assigning an identifier to the new file, wherein the identifier can
13 be used to identify the virtual server, and
14 creating the new file within a storage area associated with a
15 computing device hosting the plurality of virtual servers; and
16 if the file access request is for an existing file,
17 retrieving the identifier assigned to the existing file,
18 determining if the identifier is associated with the virtual
19 server that generated the file access request, and

20 | if the identifier is associated with the virtual server that
21 | generated the file access request, allowing access to the existing
22 | file, thereby providing access control for the file.

1 | 2 (Canceled).

1 | 3. (Currently amended) The method of ~~claim 2~~claim 1, wherein if the file
2 | access request is a request to delete the existing file, the method further comprises
3 | deleting the existing file.

1 | 4. (Currently amended) The method of ~~claim 2~~claim 1, wherein if the file
2 | access request is a request to modify the existing file, the method further
3 | comprises modifying the existing file.

1 | 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein if the file access request is a
2 | request to allocate additional file space, the method further comprises:
3 | determining if space is remaining in the storage area associated with the
4 | computing device that is available to the virtual server; and
5 | if space is remaining in the storage area that is available to the virtual
6 | server, allocating the additional file space.

1 | 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising allowing a system
2 | administrator to establish an amount of storage within the storage area associated
3 | with the computing device that is available to the virtual server within the
4 | plurality of virtual servers.

1 | 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein if the file access request did
2 | not originate from within the virtual server, the method further comprises:

3 determining if the file access request is a request to update the identifier;
4 and
5 if the file access request is a request to update the identifier, updating the
6 identifier.

1 8. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing
2 instructions that when executed by a computer cause the computer to perform a
3 method for controlling access to files within a plurality of virtual servers, wherein
4 the plurality of virtual servers operate within separate virtual environments on a
5 single computing device, comprising:
6 accepting a file access request;
7 determining if the file access request originated from within a virtual
8 server of the plurality of virtual servers, wherein the virtual server operates within
9 a virtual environment that is insulated from other virtual environments associated
10 with other virtual servers;
11 if the file access request originated from within the virtual server,
12 determining if the file access request is for a new file; ~~and~~
13 if the file access request is for a new file,
14 assigning an identifier to the new file, wherein the identifier can
15 be used to identify the virtual server, and
16 creating the new file within a storage area associated with a
17 computing device hosting the plurality of virtual servers; and
18 if the file access request is for an existing file,
19 retrieving the identifier assigned to the existing file,
20 determining if the identifier is associated with the virtual
21 server that generated the file access request, and

22 | if the identifier is associated with the virtual server that
23 | generated the file access request, allowing access to the existing
24 | file, thereby providing access control for the file.

1 | 9 (Canceled).

1 | 10. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of ~~claim~~
2 | 9claim 8, wherein if the file access request is a request to delete the existing file,
3 | the method further comprises deleting the existing file.

1 | 11. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of ~~claim~~
2 | 9claim 8, wherein if the file access request is a request to modify the existing file,
3 | the method further comprises modifying the existing file.

1 | 12. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 8, wherein
2 | if the file access request is a request to allocate additional file space, the method
3 | further comprises:
4 | determining if space is remaining in the storage area associated with the
5 | computing device that is available to the virtual server; and
6 | if space is remaining in the storage area that is available to the virtual
7 | server, allocating the additional file space.

1 | 13. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 8, further
2 | comprising allowing a system administrator to establish an amount of storage
3 | within the storage area that is available to the virtual server within the plurality of
4 | virtual servers.

1 14. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 8, wherein
2 if the file access request did not originate from within the virtual server, the
3 method further comprises:
4 determining if the file access request is a request to update the identifier;
5 and
6 if the file access request is a request to update the identifier, updating the
7 identifier.

1 15. (Currently amended) An apparatus that facilitates controlling access to
2 files within a plurality of virtual servers, wherein the plurality of virtual servers
3 operate within separate virtual environments on a single computing device,
4 comprising:
5 an accepting mechanism that is configured to accept a file access request;
6 a first determining mechanism that is configured to determine if the file
7 access request originated from within a virtual server of the plurality of virtual
8 servers, wherein the virtual server operates within a virtual environment that is
9 insulated from other virtual environments associated with other virtual servers;
10 a second determining mechanism that is configured to determine if the file
11 access request is for a new file;
12 a creating mechanism that is configured to create the new file within a
13 storage area associated with a computing device hosting the plurality of virtual
14 servers if the file request is for a new file; and
15 an assigning mechanism that is configured to assign an identifier to the
16 new file, wherein the identifier can be used to identify the virtual server;
17 a retrieving mechanism that is configured to retrieve the identifier assigned
18 to an existing file;

19 a third determining mechanism that is configured to determine if the
20 identifier is associated with the virtual server that generated the file access
21 request; and
22 an accessing mechanism that is configured to allow access to the existing
23 file if the identifier is associated with the virtual server that generated the file,
24 thereby providing access control for the file.

1 16. (Canceled).

1 17. (Currently amended) The apparatus of ~~claim 16~~claim 15, further
2 comprising a deleting mechanism that is configured to delete the existing file if
3 the file access request is a request to delete the existing file.

1 18. (Currently amended) The apparatus of ~~claim 16~~claim 15, further
2 comprising a modifying mechanism that is configured to modify the existing file
3 if the file access request is a request to modify the existing file.

1 19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising:
2 a fourth determining mechanism that is configured to determine if space is
3 remaining in the storage area associated with the computing device that is
4 available to the virtual server; and
5 an allocating mechanism that is configured to allocate additional space
6 from the storage area.

1 20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising an
2 establishing mechanism that is configured to allow a system administrator to

3 establish an amount of storage within the storage area that is available to the
4 virtual server.

1 21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising:
2 a fifth determining mechanism that is configured to determine if the file
3 access request is a request to update the identifier; and
4 an updating mechanism that is configured to update the identifier if the file
5 access request is a request to update the identifier.